



The Senior Scene

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF
THE SENIORS of the GROVE



Vol. 20, No. 2 October, November, December 2015

Fall is in full swing, the colors are changing and you can see and feel the difference from a few short weeks ago. The high, hot sun and warm humid air has given way to my favorite time of year. Cool evenings, bright sunny days, beautiful colors. You know, when I write to you on a quarterly basis, it seems that we are always in a change of seasons, and my conversation settles around that change. The blank page is difficult to face, and trying to come up with new words of "wisdom" for you all seems impossible.

It is times like these that I truly appreciate those that make this publication possible. You see, I do this front page ONLY, and the other 11 pages are filled with stories, articles, jokes and information pulled together by a small group of editors. One of those, Dorothy Stevenson, will be leaving the editorial group after 20 years. Her long stand dates back to the first issue published. Read more about that and the other changes in the editors later in this newsletter. But think, for 20 years Dorothy has worked trying to come up with new, interesting and entertaining items. It is much harder than you might think!

Fall brings us great weather, but it also brings us great celebrations. Halloween, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, New Years. Am I missing any? It is easy to get busy getting ready to celebrate, take some time away, get together with others; and before you know it, the holiday has slipped by and you hardly remember "living it." This year, I'm going to try and be present to live and experience the moments.

I learned some of this, this past summer as I celebrated the wedding of my youngest daughter. This time, I didn't take a single picture (I trusted and relied on others to do this). I hung out with the girls in the morning and had my hair and makeup done (instead of running to make sure everything was in the right spot at the right time). I sat with

friends and family and had good conversations (rather than thinking about who else I should be talking to). I sat back and felt the emotions, watched the smiles of happiness, the tears of joy, the beauty of the sun on the flowers, and the awe in my grandson's eyes as he walked down the aisle. So many more memories because I intentionally tried to see and live them!



Do you find yourself at the end of a special day wondering where it went, what happened, did I even get to see ... ? Take some time this fall to see, smell, feel the season and the holidays. Enjoy those special moments and stop worrying about what is next on the to-do list.

Is this something we learn as we age? Maybe I'm "preaching to the choir?" Either way, have a blessed season!

Kris

Hello and Goodbye

Change is Inevitable

With this publication come changes to the editorial staff of this newsletter. We are welcoming Marilyn Pederson as a new editor. She is a former high school teacher and comes with an expertise in proofreading and editing. Welcome to the team, Marilyn.

As we welcome Marilyn, we say goodbye to two members of the team. First, Virginia, who has worked as a writer, editor, software and computer expert. She is moving out of town, but we are hoping to have her writing contributions continue. We will miss her on Friday mornings inputting and organizing the layout of each edition.

Dorothy also leaves the team. She says it is time that she leaves; you see, she has been involved with this publication since the very first edition in 1996. She volunteered to help with the newsletter at the initial meeting held for the Maple Grove Senior Program. Thinking she was volunteering to stick labels, fold the copies, and generally help with the mailing, she was surprised to find out that what was really needed was the writing and editing of this quarterly newsletter. The first edition was nothing like it has become. It was smaller and contained mostly program registration information and a few articles. Through the years with a number of other people (some who have come and gone) and with the help of Dorothy the quarterly newsletter grew to the great publication it is today: a variety of articles about history, current events, information about the senior programs, jokes, laughter and pictures. We will miss Dorothy's leadership, her great writing skill (she has so much history, and storytelling to share), and her indispensable knowledge of the grammar rules. (I am sure she'll be checking future issues to see how we are doing.)

Thanks, Virginia and Dorothy. We will miss you.

Finally, we welcome any of you to help us continue to make this a great publication. We need stories, ideas, and writings to include in future publications. If you are not a writer but have a story to share, we'll write it. So, please let Kris know and share your ideas with the team.

Make the Most of Autumn

Take advantage of the weather. Autumn can be a treat for the senses: the crisp air, apple picking, pumpkin carving, a gorgeous canopy of fall foliage, and the crunch of leaves underfoot. These months are a great time to go outdoors and enjoy cooler temperatures. Walking or hiking is awesome in the fall. Discover park trails and take in some new scenery.

Think outside the box. Always wanted to learn to line dance? Practice yoga? Join a book club? Start a journal? Master the latest Windows operating system? Fall is a great time to learn something new.

Take fall foliage excursions. One of the most beautiful hallmarks of autumn is the changing of the leaves. There's something about this annual explosion of color that's irresistible. Definitely plan to spend some time watching the leaves change over the next few weeks. A walk through a nearby park or a weekend drive through a wooded area can be very diverting.

Keep gardening. People who love gardening don't have to stop just because summer is over. Mums, marigolds, zinnias, and other flowers do well in the fall, or plant some bulbs so you get the fun of watching them pop up in the spring.

Football season is here, and perhaps you would like to go see a game or two. It doesn't have to be a pro game, either; a high school football game can be just as much fun, especially if there's a grandchild playing, cheering, or performing in the band.

Enjoy the cozy foods of fall. Bake an apple or pumpkin pie, roast vegetables for a tasty side dish, make a big batch of chili or some homemade soup.

Summer is wonderful, but there's plenty to do in autumn as well. Don't miss out on the fun.

...By Virginia Hanson



Angel Food Cake

Lois H. Caswell shares her story

While growing up on the farm, one of my jobs was hunting eggs every night. Wow, did we have a lot of them. I hated that job because I knew there were mice in the chicken coop and I hated them, but none the less it was something I had to do each day. I did not like the chickens much either, but oh well.

The eggs filled up a big wire basket each day. We sold eggs to customers who wanted good fresh eggs, and we always had more than enough for our use. However, there were always some we couldn't sell that were cracked or funny looking. What to do with them? We could only make so many noodles, deviled eggs or egg dishes. So we would make Angel Food Cakes from scratch. We'd give them as gifts and still had a good supply in our gigantic freezer.

My Mom didn't think electric mixers did as good a job as beating the egg whites by hand, so that is how we made Angel Food Cakes. We beat those egg whites with a wire whisk until stiff firm peaks formed, then carefully folded in the other ingredients. It was quite a project, to be sure.

I won't forget one warm sunny Saturday afternoon during football season when Mom announced our project for the afternoon would be Angel Food Cakes. The radio in the kitchen, of course, was tuned to the football game between Iowa and Minnesota.

Mom grew up in Iowa; and, even though she lived in Minnesota for many more years, she always remained loyal to Iowa and always cheered for them when they played Minnesota. Naturally, I would cheer for Minnesota. I am not sure if I was a fan or just liked to oppose Mom's silly loyalty.

This day we were both working on our cakes. Hers vanilla and mine chocolate, so it was extra sticky and sweet. The cakes were nearly done, and the game was nearly over with Iowa ahead when suddenly the Gophers scored a touchdown in the last few seconds. I got so genuinely excited that I threw my hands in the air; and yes, the nearly done beautiful Chocolate Angel Food went flying all over the kitchen. Oh My!

I'm not sure if Mom was more upset about the game, the cake, or the kitchen; but let's just say she wasn't happy. You can guess what I spent the rest of my Saturday afternoon doing until it was time to hunt

more of those darn eggs. Oh my, that was a mess to try and clean up.

At least we won! I really would have hated to do all of that and lose the game.

All things considered, there still is nothing quite like homemade Angel Food Cake made from scratch; but it isn't the same without Mom.

...Lois H. Caswell



To Lighten Our Spirits

Bill and his wife Blanche go to the state fair every year,

And every year Bill would say,

"Blanche, I'd like to ride in that helicopter."

Blanche always replied,

"I know, Bill, but that helicopter ride is fifty bucks;

And fifty bucks is fifty bucks! "

One year Bill and Blanche went to the fair; and Bill

said, "Blanche, I'm 75 years old.

If I don't ride that helicopter, I might never get another chance."

To this, Blanche replied,

"Bill, that helicopter ride is fifty bucks; and fifty bucks is fifty bucks."

The pilot overheard the couple and said,

"Folks, I'll make you a deal. I'll take the both of you for a ride. If you can stay quiet for the entire ride and don't say a word, I won't charge you a penny!

But if you say one word, it's fifty dollars."

Bill and Blanche agreed, and up they went.

The pilot did all kinds of fancy maneuvers, but not a word was heard.

He did his daredevil tricks over and over again, But still not a word...

When they landed, the pilot turned to Bill and said,

"By golly, I did everything I could to get you to yell out, but you didn't. I'm impressed!"

Bill replied, "Well, to tell you the truth,

I almost said something when Blanche fell out,

But you know, Fifty bucks is fifty bucks! "

Maple Grove's Amazing Story

Maple Grove Historical Perspective

In 1990 Maple Grove's population was 38,736. Now, 25 years later, 66,587 people call Maple Grove home. About half of us have no idea what Maple Grove was like in 1990.

Gravel mining was, and still is, big in Maple Grove. In 1990 the Gravel Mining Area, GMA, extended East from Walgreens to Highway 81. A 35-foot deep mining pit was where Pier 1 is now. Before the land from Cub to Pier 1 was developed, kids rode their bikes up and down the gravel hills.

Our clear, clean, small, city lakes were once mining pits. Today the landscape along Zachary Lane from Weaver Lake Road to Elm Creek is constantly changing. At times the hills of sand, gravel, recycled construction materials resemble modern art. Snow covered, it's easy to imagine them as Maple Grove's mountains. In summer rows of rocks, from 20 pounds to large boulders, arrive then disappear. A true rock garden?

In 1990 three commercial areas existed: Bass Lake Center, Zachary Square, and a third one on the corner of Elm Creek Boulevard and Grove Drive that housed Walgreens, Kmart, Jubilee Foods, J Cousineau's, and several small shops.

Restaurants were: Champs, The Lookout, Polaski's (now Maple Tavern), J Cousineau's (now JC's), and McDonalds. **Google says we now have 87 restaurants, 25 churches, 33 banks, 37 gas stations, 8 hotels, 19 schools, 5 fire stations, and a movie theater with multiple screens. Maple Grove is second only to the Mall of America in shopping opportunities.**

Facts are interesting, but not intriguing. So, you folks who were here in 1990, please share your memories with us: funny, odd, strange, weird, heart warming, heroic, or slightly outside the law, (we don't want anyone going to jail) memories.

...Contributors: Al Madsen, retiring City Administrator and Bob Johnson, long time Maple Grove resident.

Then, Now and Someday

In the early 1900's telephones became a reality in rural (us) Minnesota.

It was a 6- or 12-person "party line."

In the early 1950's the first dial phones arrived with a 3-minute time limit, when the call got disconnected. Calls to Minneapolis were for emergencies, and long-distance rates applied.

Today we talk FaceTime with someone on the other side of the world on phones we carry in our back pocket.

Electricity arrived in the early 1930's. The Maple Grove Historical Preservation Society's March 2009 newsletter reports that a woman had to unplug her refrigerator to use her electric mixer. Today I have 16 outlets, 10 on and off switches in my kitchen alone.

In 1967, because Canadian Geese were rare in the Twin City metro area, the Osseo Conservation Club bought a matched pair for \$150. They built 300-pound nests and put them in areas near where the first offspring were born. In 1974 the DNR estimated we had about 2,000 honkers nesting. In 2009 the metro flock was estimated at around 300,000 birds. We hear golfers are not happy with this development.

Half of the products found in Target, Walmart, Costco today were not available just ten years ago.

Finally, I'm sorry to report that in another 40 years . . . we'll have thousands of old ladies running around with sagging tattoos.

...Judy Granahan

If you don't have a sense of humor . . .

You probably don't have any sense at all. :-)

Drop In to Drop Off

Medicine Disposal Box In Maple Grove

The Maple Grove Police Department received a medicine drop box, paid in full, and donated from the Maple Grove Lions Club. The medicine drop-off box was in collaboration with the police department, Hennepin County Sheriff's Office, the Hennepin County Environment and Energy Department, the Maple Grove Lions Club and Partnership for Change.

The drop box is located in the lobby of the Maple Grove Police Department. It is an easy way for Maple Grove residents to safely dispose of unused prescription medications in a manner that is safe for the environment and will reduce the misuse of these medicines.

"The abuse of prescription medications is a problem communities are experiencing in Minnesota and across the country. Our drop box will help reduce the abuse of prescription medications, which is affecting our youth or is commonly seen as a gateway to illegal drug use," said Maple Grove Police Chief Eric Werner.



The Maple Grove Drop box is accessible 24 hours a day, seven days a week in a secure and monitored location. Household prescription medications (including controlled substances), over-the-counter medicines, vitamins and supplements, and pet medicines will be accepted. No needles, sharps or syringes will be accepted.

"This is a safe and secure location," Chief Werner added. "It's free, and anyone can open the box and dispose of their medication by dropping it into this secure location."

The brown box inside of the drop box, once filled, gets packaged up, sealed and transported over to the Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's office handles the hazardous waste and disposes of it properly. The Maple Grove Police Department is located at 12800 Arbor Lakes Pkwy. N.

For more information contact Captain Keith Terlinden at 763-494-6172 or kterlinden@maplegrovmn.gov. The Hennepin County medicine disposal website: www.hennepin.us/medicine provides information on frequently asked questions and other drop box location and hours.

...From the Maple Grove Lions Newsletter

The best sermons are lived, not preached

A man woke up feeling ill but decided he needed the money, so he went into work.

At 3 p.m. he got laid off. On his drive home he got a flat tire; the spare in his trunk was flat too.

A man in a BMW pulled over and gave him a ride. They chatted, and he was offered a job. He started the next day.

When you read a story about a cancer patient laughing hysterically about something, does it make you realize you need to stop complaining about life and start celebrating it again?

A man was traveling in Kenya and met a refugee from Zimbabwe who said he hadn't eaten anything in over 3 days. He looked extremely skinny and unhealthy. The man offered him the rest of the sandwich he was eating. The first thing the man said was, "We can share it."

A grandson interviewed his grandmother as part of a research paper he was doing for his Psychology class. When asked to define success in her own words, she said, "Success is when you look back at your life and the memories make you smile."

Great River Energy

The sight of a wind turbine may seem out of place in some cities, but for Maple Grove, it's the norm.

That's because **Maple Grove is home to the headquarters of Great River Energy, the second-largest power supplier in Minnesota.** It is a not-for-profit cooperative, providing wholesale electric service to 28 distribution cooperatives in the state. Those member cooperatives then distribute electricity to more than 650,000 member consumers – or about 1.7 million people.

While many businesses serve their “customers,” at Great River Energy we exist to serve our members. That's because our members actually own a stake in their cooperative, and we are governed by a democratically-elected board of directors who are electric cooperative members themselves. Board members establish rates and develop policies in the best interest of us and our members. Our 28-member cooperatives serve areas in the outer-ring suburbs of the Twin Cities to the Arrowhead region of the state to the farmland of southwestern Minnesota, as well as parts of Wisconsin.

Though we serve members in Minnesota and a few in Wisconsin, the electricity used to light their homes and businesses is generated by a variety of power plants and renewable energy sources. We own and operate in three coal plants in North Dakota. They are the backbone of our electric generation system and run all day, every day in order to meet the energy needs of our members. We own another power plant in Elk River that burns garbage to generate electricity and smaller plants scattered around the state. We also buy power from wind farms in southwestern Minnesota and hydroelectric dams in Canada and along the Missouri River.

Our triple-bottom line at Great River Energy is to provide members with affordable, reliable energy in harmony with a sustainable environment. And as stewards of the environment, we encourage the wise use of energy through conservation and integrate more renewable energy sources into our generation mix.

Our Platinum LEED-certified headquarters building is one of the most energy-efficient and sustainable buildings in the state. It features fluorescent and LED lighting throughout, rooftop solar photovoltaic panels, a state-of-the-art geothermal heating and cooling system, multiple atriums that allows us to harvest maximum daylight – and, of course, our own 150-foot-tall wind turbine. We also capture rainwater to use for flushing toilets and irrigation.

To help determine how solar power can be integrated into our system, we installed a research and demonstration solar array outside of our headquarters in May 2014. It was built to measure the performance of three different panel technologies and document lessons learned while designing, permitting and installing the array. We worked with 19 of our member cooperatives to install smaller solar arrays at their sites to collect data from as well. These projects, like many others we have completed or have ongoing, were driven by member interest – not to meet any state or federal mandates.

Great River Energy has built a reputation in the electric utility industry for being innovative, whether it's through certain programs we offer to members or creating new technologies that increase efficiencies and lessen our environmental impact. **We are also committed to the communities in which we serve and have facilities, both in North Dakota and Minnesota. We give back to them through grants, scholarships, sponsorships and volunteer efforts.**

For more information about Great River Energy and the cooperative difference, visit greatriverenergy.com.

...Contributed by Andrea Pendergast and Mark Rathbun

Interesting Fact

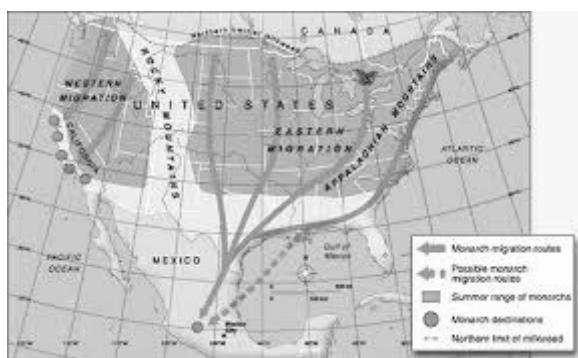
The Great River Energy Headquarters' state-of-the-art geothermal heating and cooling system comes from 31 miles of gas thermal pipes embedded in the pond behind Great River Energy to produce heat and cooling to 3/4 of their building.

An Amazing Phenomena of Nature

Migration of the Monarchs

Every autumn tens of millions of monarch butterflies, including those from Minnesota, migrate to warmer climates in Mexico and various coastal sites in California. Monarch numbers reach their peak by fall migration. Monarchs that are born here in the spring and summer months reproduce within a few days and their lifespan is two to six weeks. They produce four generations during the typical breeding season.

Those born after mid-August will be the first members of the autumn migratory generation and they are the great-great-grandchildren of the monarchs that left Mexico to come here last spring. Still, they fly south to the same location that their great-great-grandparents spent the winter before. This migrating generation has a much longer and more strenuous lifespan than those born in the spring and summer. They will migrate this fall flying up to 2,000 miles, survive through the winter in warmer climates, and return to the United States in spring 2016 to begin the breeding season anew. A butterfly born in Minnesota in September will not mate until after its long winter rest, and can live for up to eight months. They mate and lay eggs during their northward migration back into the United States.



The timing for migration both ways is quite specific. Monarchs start leaving for Mexico around the 21st of September and start heading back to the states around the 21st of March. Their journeys are timed to the equinox, the two days of the year when the lengths of day and night are approximately equal.

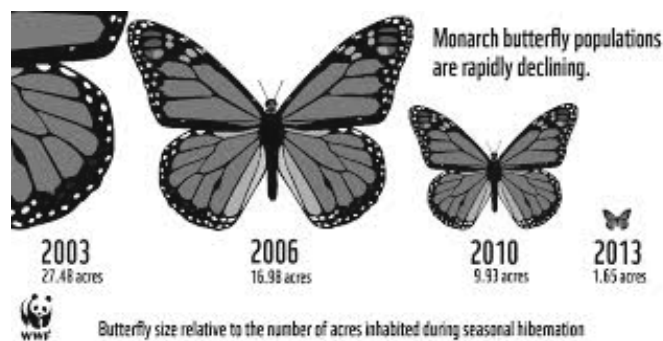


Monarch numbers are declining, partly due to the loss of open spaces where milkweed grows and the widespread use of chemicals on crops. Currently, Canada, the United States and Mexico are working together to protect the amazing natural phenomena of the Monarch migration. We can help by planting native milkweed on our property to provide Monarch "way stations" and to make our yards and gardens attractive to them. After their metamorphosis, Monarchs enjoy a variety of flowers (Asters, Goldenrod, Coneflowers...), but during their caterpillar stage, they live exclusively on milkweed plants which are the only plants on which female Monarchs will lay their eggs.

For more information on our beautiful Monarchs go to: monarchwatch.org, Monarch Butterfly Tours, Minneapolis Monarch Festival.

In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous--l Aristotle (B.C. 384-322)

...Virginia Hanson



Thank You, Veterans

November 11 is Veterans Day

It's a day to remember and to be grateful for our vets who came home safely. It's also a day to sadly remember those who did not.

It's a day, too, when the veterans themselves sometimes get together at reunions and reflect on long-ago memories of those days they shared and of what they lived through together. Some of the memories are very good; but many of them are very, very bad.

It does seem that as the years go by, the stories the veterans tell get bigger and better. At least those of my favorite veteran and his friends seem to. Memories apparently improve with age, I guess. I'm joking, of course, because I am proud of him and of all those men who fought and suffered so much for their country and for their families. Perhaps this Veterans Day would be a good time to give them a hug and tell them so.



Funchilin Pass, Korea



My Old M-1

My old M-1 is hanging
on the wall of my den.
You know I rarely take it down
But I touch it now and then.

It's rather slow and heavy
By standards of today
But not too many years ago
It swept the rest away.

It's held its own in battles
Through snow, or rain, or sun
And I had one just like it,
This treasured old M-1.

It went ashore at Bougainville
In Nineteen Forty-Three.
It stormed the beach at Tarawa
Through a bullet-riddled sea.

Saipan knew its strident bark,
Kwajalein, its sting.

The rocky caves of Peleliu
Resounded with its ring.

It climbed the hill on Iwo
With men who wouldn't stop
And left our nation's banner
Flying on the top.

It poked its nose in Pusan,
Screamed an angry roar
And took the First Division
From Chosin Reservoir.

Well, time moves on
And things improve
With rifles and with men,
And that is why the two of us
Are sitting in my den.

But sometimes on a winter night,
While thinking of my Corps,
I know that if the bugle blew
We'd be a team once more.

...Dorothy Stevenson



Veterans Day is November 11



I watched the flag pass by one day. It fluttered in the breeze.
 A young Marine saluted it. And then he stood at ease.
 I looked at him in uniform, so young, so tall, so proud.
 With hair cut square and eyes alert. He'd stand out in any crowd.
 I thought how many men like him had fallen through the years.
 How many died on foreign Soil: How many mothers' tears,
 How many pilots' planes shot down? How many died at sea?
 How many foxholes were soldiers' graves?
 Freedom isn't free.
 I heard the sound of taps one night when everything was still.
 I listened to the bugler play and felt a sudden chill.
 I wondered just how many times that taps had meant Amen, when a flag had draped a coffin of a brother or a friend.
 I thought of all the children, of the mothers and the wives,
 Of fathers, sons and husbands with interrupted lives.
 I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea,
 Of unmarked graves in Arlington.

No, freedom isn't free.



Holland Remembers

About six miles from Maastricht, in the Netherlands, lie buried 8,301 American soldiers who died in "Operation Market Garden" in the battles to liberate Holland in the fall and winter of 1944-5. Every one of the men buried in the cemetery, as well as those in the Canadian and British military cemeteries, has been adopted by a Dutch family who mind the grave, decorate it, and keep alive the memory of the soldier they have adopted. It is even the custom to keep a portrait of "their" American soldier in a place of honor in their home. Annually, on "Liberation Day," memorial services are held for "the men who died to liberate Holland." The day concludes with a concert.

The final piece is always "Il Silenzio," a memorial piece commissioned by the Dutch and first played in 1965 on the 20th anniversary of Holland's liberation. It has been the concluding piece of the memorial concert ever since.

This year the soloist was a 13-year-old Dutch girl, Melissa Venema, backed by Andre Rieu and his orchestra (the Royal Orchestra of the Netherlands). This beautiful concert piece is based upon the original version of taps and was composed by Italian composer Nino Rossi. To hear it go to:

<http://www.flixxy.com/trumpet-solo-melissa-venema.htm>

Technology Updates

Windows 10 Is Here!

Microsoft has been "teasing" us with the release of the NEW Windows 10, and in July it was released. The Maple Grove Computer Learning Center at the Community Center has installed and is teaching classes using this new operating system.

Windows 10 has been described as taking the best of Windows 7 and Windows 8; who knew $7+8 = 10$!

Are you getting a new system, upgrading your current system, or just wanting to learn and see what it is all about? Come take a class at the Learning Center. We teach Introduction to Computers, Word Processing, Excel, Internet, Google Chrome, Gmail, Genealogy, Graphics, Photoshop Elements and Windows 10 Operating System.

Facebook

This is for those of my generation who do not really comprehend why Facebook exists.

Presently, I am trying to make friends outside of Facebook while applying the same principles.

Therefore, every day I go down the street and tell the passers-by what I have eaten, how I feel, what I have done the night before and what I will do tomorrow night.

Then I give them pictures of my family, my dog, and my gardening, and spending time in my pool. I also listen to their conversations, and I tell them I love them.

And it works. I already have 3 persons following me: 2 police officers and a psychiatrist.

Tomorrow I'm going to try Twittering.



Gates vs. Ford Motor Company

For all of us who feel only the deepest love and affection for the way computers have enhanced our lives, read on.

Imagine how Bill Gates would respond if he were going to compare the computer industry with the auto industry:

If Ford had kept up with technology like the computer industry has, we would all be driving \$25 cars that got 1,000 miles to the gallon.

If Ford had developed technology like Microsoft, we would all be driving cars with the following characteristics:

1. For no reason whatsoever, your car would crash twice a day.
2. Occasionally, executing a maneuver such as a left turn would cause your car to shut down and refuse to restart, in which case you would have to reinstall the engine.
3. The oil, water temperature, and alternator warning lights would all be replaced by a single "This Car Has Performed An Illegal Operation" warning light.
4. The airbag system would ask "Are you sure?" before deploying.
5. Every time a new car was introduced, car buyers would have to learn how to drive all over again because none of the controls would operate in the same manner as the old car.
6. You'd have to press the "Start" button to turn the engine off.

Please share this with your friends who love — but sometimes hate their computer!



Book Club and More...

Senior Book Club

Everyone is welcome to the Senior Book Club. Come join the interesting discussions. They meet the first Wednesday from 9:30-11:30. Books are selected from the Book Kits offered by the Hennepin County Library. Copies of the book are available from Kris in the Senior Center.



October's discussion:

Defending Jacob

By William Landay

Andy Barber has been an assistant district attorney in his suburban Massachusetts county for more than 20 years. He is respected in his community, tenacious in the courtroom, and happy at home with his wife, Laurie, and son, Jacob. But when a shocking crime shatters their New England town, Andy is blindsided by what happens next: His 14-year-old son is charged with the murder of a fellow student.

Every parental instinct Andy has rallies to protect his boy. Jacob insists that he is innocent, and Andy believes him. Andy must. He's his father. But as damning facts and shocking revelations surface, as a marriage threatens to crumble and the trial intensifies, as the crisis reveals how little a father knows about his son, Andy will face a trial of his own--between loyalty and justice, between truth and allegation, between a past he's tried to bury and a future he cannot conceive.

...Good Reads.Com

November's discussion is Potpourri.

December's discussion:

The Orphan Train

by Christina Baker Kline

Orphan Train is a young adult / historical fiction novel about the relationship between seventeen year-old Molly Ayer and ninety-one year-old Vivian Daly who, as the result of spending time together and sharing their experiences, form a bond, learn from each other, and change in significant ways.

The Porch Painter

...Bookrags.Com

A young girl in her late teens, wanting to earn some extra money for the summer, decided to hire herself out as a "handy woman." Canvassing a nearby well-to-do neighborhood, she went to the front door of the first house and asked the owner if he had any odd jobs for her to do.

"Well, I guess I could use somebody to paint the porch. How much would you charge me?"

Delighted, the girl quickly responded, "How about \$50?"

The man agreed and told her that the paint and brushes and everything she would need were in the garage. The man's wife, hearing the conversation, said to her husband,

"Does she realize that our porch goes ALL the way around the house? I think you misled her!"

"Well, she didn't ask about how big the porch was, and I AM providing all the materials for the job."

His wife replied, "Well, maybe that's a fair exchange then."

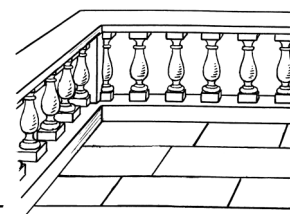
A few hours later, the girl came to the door to collect her money.

"You're finished already??" the startled husband asked.

"Yes," the girl replied, "I even had paint left over, so I gave it two coats."

Impressed, the man reached into his pocket and handed her \$50, along with a \$10 tip.

"Thank you," the girl said, "And, by the way, it's not a Porsche, it's a Lexus."





Seniors of the Grove
Maple Grove Parks & Rec Dept
12951 Weaver Lake Road
Maple Grove, MN 55369

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Happy Thanksgiving

Indian Serenity Prayer

Have I done all I can to keep the air fresh?
Have I cared enough about the water?
Have I left the eagle to soar in freedom?
Have I done everything I can to earn my grand-
child's fondness?

...Chief Dan George



Greet the dawn with enthusiasm, and you may expect satisfaction at sunset.

Wise people will make more opportunities than they find.

Whatever you want to do—do it. There are only so many tomorrows.



Newsletter Committee: Kris Orluck, Judy Granahan, Virginia Hanson, Marilyn Pederson, Marilyn Schroeder, Dorothy Stevenson

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The next Newsletter will be published in December. Please submit items for the next issue by November 1, 2015. Please send or bring your stories, jokes, tidbits. to Kris. Rough drafts are welcome.